MARVEL LEGACY

GWENOM PART 1

25

LATOUR
RODRIGUEZ
RENZI

SPIDER-GWEN™

YANCY STREET.

FSSSSSHHHH

IMPRESSIVE WORK.

I TAKE IT YOU HAVE A PERMIT?

HEH. NAH, MAN. I GREW UP HERE.

DON'T YOU WORRY. THEY'LL PAINT IT OVER WITH A SLEEPY SHADE OF ***STARK BUCKS*** CHARTREUSE SOON.

BUT FOR NOW, SPIDER-WOMAN JOINS LUKE CAGE AS ONE OF "HOBIE'S HOMETOWN HEROES."

HEH. HERO?

IF SPIDER-WOMAN WAS ***EVER*** THAT...

...WELL, SHE'S SOMETHING ***ELSE*** NOW, ISN'T SHE?

HEY--CALL HER WHATEVER YOU WANT, MAN. I JUST PAINT WHAT INSPIRES ***ME.***

BESIDES... NAME ME ONE GOOD STORY--

--WHERE THE HERO ***AIN'T*** DEAD.

HELL'S KITCHEN.

WASN'T SO LONG AGO, MY TOUGH CHOICES WERE EASY.

I'M ONLY GOING TO ASK YOU ONCE MORE, "FANCY DAN"--

"SUBWAY OR BUS?"

"ELEVATOR OR THE STAIRS?"

...COUUUUUCH...

--WHERE IS HE? WHERE IS "THE RHINO"?

"RHINO"? HA! GIMME A FRIGGIN' BREAK--

ALEKSEI FIGHTS SPIDER-WOMAN ***ONCE*** AN' NOW THINKS HE'S SOME KINDA SUPER VILLAIN?

HEH.

"SALAD OR FRIES?"

...CAAAAAKE...

BACK THEN, MY PROBLEMS WERE AS SMALL AS MY WORLD.

MY VICES, MY FRUSTRATIONS, MY INSECURITIES...

...THEY WERE ALL JUST WHISPERS.

THE RHINO! NOW!

WHENEVER THEY GOT LOUD, DAD'S VOICE BOOMED LOUDER--

--"DO WHAT'S RIGHT."

=SIGH= YOU CAN'T SAY I DIDN'T TRY TO BE NO STEREOTYPE.

YOU DON'T WANNA LEAVE IT BE? FINE--

--YOU CAN STAY AN' PLAY!

BUT NOW?

EVERY CHOICE IS IMPOSSIBLE.

AND THOSE VOICES?

YAGGGH!

THEY DON'T WHISPER ANYMORE...

KRACK

RRGGHGHHHH!

...THEY SCREAM.

OKAY, BOYS... WE TRY IT YOUR WAY...

WE SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE...

"...WE WILL SHARE OUR PAIN."

PETER... NO...WHY? WHY DID YOU--

I JUST... JUST WANTED...TO BE SPECIAL.

LIKE YOU.

GWEN?! H-HOW?

WHY?!

YOU'RE A GOOD COP, DAD--

--YOU PUT ON THAT BADGE AND CARRY THAT GUN BECAUSE YOU KNOW IF YOU DON'T, SOMEONE WHO SHOULDN'T WILL...

...THIS MASK IS MY BADGE NOW.

IF I DON'T DEFINE WHAT IT MEANS...

...MONSTERS LIKE THIS WILL.

YOU'RE NOT ALONE, GWEN. THIS IS HOW I FINALLY STAND BESIDE YOU...

IT'S UP TO ME TO TELL THE WORLD THE TRUTH.

IT'S A SIMPLE DEAL, GWENZELLE. A NO-BRAINER, REALLY--

YOU GET YOUR POWERS BACK.

I KEEP YOUR FATHER OUT OF PRISON...

"...AND SPIDER-WOMAN WORKS FOR ME."

IT'S OKAY, HARRY. REALLY. YOU'RE NOT GONNA BELIEVE THIS, BUT--

--THE NINJAS ARE WITH ME.

CAPTAIN... CAPTAIN... CAPTAIN...

PARTY HAS BEEN FUN, NO? BUT NOW...

...MURDOCK SAYS TAB IS DUE.

YOU GOTTA FACE IT TIIIGER... FACE IT TIIIIGERRR...

"YOU'RE RESISTING THE VENOM? HOW?!"

"SAID IT YOURSELF, MURDOCK--SOUND.

YOU CAN'T HELP HIM LIKE THIS...

YOU'RE RIGHT. WE CAN'T HELP HIM.

"BUT WE CAN HURT THEM."

WHERE?!

WHERE IS THE RHINO?!

HNGGH...

HNGGHK!

RRRRGH.

USELESS.

...YOU'RE... USSSELESSSSS...

RRGGGH!

SMASH!!!

"YOU'RE RESISTING? THE VENOM? HOW?!"

"SAID IT YOURSELF, MURDOCK-- SOUND.

"TURNS OUT WHEN IT COMES TO MUSIC-- ME AND VENOM?

"WE MARCH TO THE SAME BEAT."

HSSS!

SUPER COMBO MEAL

GWEN STACY'S MISSING?

DON'T YOU MEAN SHE'S ON THE RUN?

NO. I SAID SHE'S ***MISSING!***

HAVE YOU SEEN OUR FRIEND??

HEY...HEY, EMM JAY, I DIDN'T...MEAN ANYTHING...

BUT I MEAN-- YOUR FRIEND, SHE'S GOTTA BE ***SPIDER-WOMAN,*** RIGHT? ONLY MAKES SENSE SHE'S--

WHAT MAKES ***SENSE*** IS FOR YOU TO ***SHUT UP.***

'CAUSE IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE MISSING ALL YOUR ***TEETH--***

--YOU'LL WATCH HOW YOU TALK ABOUT MY FRIEND, MAN BUN!

GRRZZ...

HEY! HEY! WHAT IN THE SAMUEL HILLS?!

=SIGH= OH, NO. NOT THIS.

PLEASE NOT THESE GIRLS ***AGAIN.***

MR. ALBIE! YES, ***YOU*** CAN HELP US!

OUR FRIEND, GWEN STACY. YOU REMEMBER HER, RIGHT?

SHE WORKED HERE FOR, LIKE, A WHOLE MONTH BACK WHEN IT WAS THE ***DOLLAR DOG--***

WELL, SHE'S ***MISSING.*** AND INSTEAD OF HELPING FIND HER--

--THIS JERK IS SPREADING RUMORS THAT GWEN IS ***SPIDER-WOMAN!***

WAIT. SHE'S... NOT?

GIRLS, GIRLS. LISTEN--I HAVE SEEN YOUR FRIEND'S TROUBLES IN THE NEWS, OKAY?

HER FATHER, THE CAPTAIN--FIRST ARRESTED. THEN BEATEN INTO A COMA BY A MAN NAMED FOR A ZOO ANIMAL.

AND ALL BECAUSE OF HIS INVOLVEMENT WITH THE SPIDER-WOMAN-- YES?

YOU ARE RIGHT IN THAT THIS BOY WITH UNFORTUNATE HAIR IS WRONG TO SPREAD RUMORS.

BUT TRUTH OR NOT--SPIDER-WOMAN RUINED MY BUSINESS ONCE. I CANNOT RISK SUCH TROUBLES AGAIN.

SO WE WILL STRIKE A DEAL...POST YOUR FLIERS.

AND I WILL CALL IF YOUR FRIEND RETURNS. BUT ONLY AFTER I HAVE SPOKEN TO THE POLICE.

THE POLICE? BUT--

NO "BUT." YOU LOSE. I LOSE. THIS, YOUNG MISS...

"...IS CALLED A COMPROMISE."

HEY, SOOO... DON'T GET ME WRONG, I'D HAVE CUT HIM FOR NOTHIN'...

...BUT WHY WERE YOU SO MAD AT THAT KID, EMM JAY?

YOU'VE BEEN SAYING GWEN IS SPIDER-WOMAN FOR WEEKS.

YOU SAW HOW MR. ALBIE REACTED, BETTY.

LOTS OF PEOPLE ***HATED*** SPIDER-WOMAN EVEN WHEN SHE WAS ALL CLEAN AND BRIGHT AND TRYING TO DO RIGHT.

IF THEY START THINKING GWEN'S THIS ***VENOM*** THING...

HAVE YOU SEEN OUR FRIEND???

SO, PLEASE CALL

"...I DON'T EVEN WANT TO THINK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS THEN."

AFRAID?! ALEKSEI?!

HA! YOUR MIND HAS GONE THE WAY OF YOUR EYES, MURDOCK.

JACK'S ON YANCY ST

IS SIMPLE. ALEKSEI TRAMPLED CAPTAIN STACY COP FOR YOU.

NOW RHINO IS "WANTED MAN." LIKE JOHN-NEE CASH.

IS SMART TO LIE LOW. STRATEGIC.

HEH. MAYBE SO...

...BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE HIDING.

LIKE YOU'RE HOLED UP SEARCHING FOR LIQUID CONFIDENCE, WHILE SPIDER-WOMAN'S OUT THERE LOOKING FOR REVENGE.

HAH!

WILL TAKE MORE THAN GOSSIP TO MAKE RHINO STUPID, MATTHEW.

YOU ARE KINGPIN OF CRIME. EVERYONE KNOWS. NO ONE CAN PROVE. NO ONE BUT RHINO.

IS SIMPLE. WANT RHINO GONE? PAY FOR IT. WANT LIPS ZIPPED? PAY.

UNTIL YOU DO? I STAY. LET PEOPLE TALK. WHO IS CARING?

HEH. THAT WASN'T JUST ANY OLD COP YOU HURT, ALEKSEI.

STACY WAS A FATHER FIGURE TO HALF THE DEPARTMENT. TO SPIDER-WOMAN HERSELF.

THERE'S ONLY SO LONG THAT EVEN I CAN PROTECT YOU...

"...IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE **TROUBLE** COMES KNOCKING."

AAAGGGH!

LEMME DOWN! **LEMME DOWN!**

DO IT.

GIVE HIM WHAT HE WANTS.

W-WHY?! W-WHY ARE YOU DOIN' THIS?!

I DON'T KNOW **NUTHIN'!** I AIN'T **NOBODY!**

HEH.

BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE A BIG MAN, FANCY DAN.

WON'T MAKING AN EXAMPLE OUT OF YOU MAKE YOUR FRIENDS A LOT MORE... COOPERATIVE?

PLINK

PLINK

WHAT? NO! WAIT! WAIT!

I DO KNOW **THINGS!** I **DO!**

I CAN **HELP** YOU!

HELP **US?** HOW CAN A LITTLE MAN LIKE YOU HELP US?

DO IT ANYWAY.

BAMF

SPIDER-WOMAN!

OTOMO?

FINALLY. SOMEONE WITH SOME **GUTS.**

HMPH. I SEE **THE VENOM** HAS TAKEN HOLD OF YOUR MIND QUICKLY, SPIDER-WOMAN. UNLOCKED A POWERFUL HUNGER.

BUT I AM NOT HERE TO INDULGE IT THIS DAY...

I BRING WORD FROM MASTER MURDOCK. AN OFFER FROM ***THE KINGPIN*** HIMSELF...

ALEKSEI SYTSEVICH IS NO LONGER UNDER OUR PROTECTION.

IF IT IS STILL ***THE RHINO*** YOU SEEK, YOU WILL FIND HIM HERE.

JACKS

IS HE ***KIDDING?*** HE HAS TO BE #$@% JOKING, RIGHT?!

DOES HE THINK I'M ***STUPID?*** MURDOCK MASTERMINDED ***EVERYTHING!*** ALL THIS IS ON ***HIS*** HEAD!

VENGEANCE FOR CAPTAIN STACY IS YOURS TO FIND FREELY, CHILD...

YOU WILL FIND NO BARRIER FROM ***THE HAND.*** I SUGGEST YOU TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS GESTURE.

WHATEVER MY MASTER'S REASONS, YOU MAY ***TRUST*** ONE THING--

HM.

"--SUCH AN OFFER WILL NOT COME SO EASILY AGAIN."

GUYS? UM...GUYS, WAIT?

PLINK.

GUYS?!

YESSIR. I UNDERSTAND.

THE BAR. JACK'S ON YANCY STREET.

MR. MURDOCK CAN COUNT ON US, SIR.

TELL THE BOYS TO SUIT UP.

SPIDER-WOMAN IS ON HER WAY.

ANOTHER PICKLEBACK ROUND, ALEKSEI? ON ME?

PFFFFBBTT. TELL ME, DEVIL...

...WHY IS IT EVERY TIME YOU GIVE...

...I AM ONE WHO TAKES IT--

ALEKSEI SYTSEVICH!

EH?

YOU OWE US BLOOD, RHINO--

--WE'RE HERE TO MAKE YOU PAY!

TING TING TING

WELP. THAT'S MY CUE. GOOD LUCK, ALEKSEI.

WAIT. ***THIS*** IS SPIDER-WOMAN?

WHAT HAPPENED? WAS SHE BITTEN BY WAMPIRE?!

YOU'RE NOT GOING ***ANYWHERE***, MURDOCK!

YOU'RE ***NEXT!***

HEH. DEAR, DEAR GWENZELLE--

--WHY, I'M THE ONE WHO GAVE YOU THE ***POWER*** TO ***AVENGE*** YOUR FATHER, DID I NOT?

ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO ***WASTE*** THIS MOMENT TRYING TO STOP ***ME?***

OR USE THAT POWER TO ***PUNISH*** THE MAN WHO ACTUALLY ***HURT*** HIM?

=GULP=

"THE BIGGER PICTURE.

"SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO STEP BACK TO SEE IT

WEEO WEEO WEEO

NYPD

"CHOOSE TO SACRIFICE A BATTLE...

"...IN ORDER TO WIN THE WAR.

MATT MURDOCK NOT ONLY RUNS THIS CITY NOW—

RRRRGH!

—HE RUBS OUR FACES IN IT.

WHISH!

MOVES US AROUND LIKE A SHELL GAME.

ALWAYS SHIFTING. DIVERTING THE FOCUS AWAY FROM HIMSELF

HURRNGH!

WHILE I WAS BUSY CHASING MY OWN DEMONS...

THWP

SHICK!!

HURK.

—PUNISHING MYSELF.

—FIGHTING LITTLE BATTLES WITH THE LIKES OF SPIDER-WOMAN.

"...THE DEVIL WAS WINNING THE WAR."

ALL RIGHT, BOYS--

--GAS 'EM!

HRRGK!

TSSS

STEADY, MEN.

KEEP YOUR DISTANCE.

I KNEW IT...IT'S A SETUP.

KEEP THOSE SONIC BATONS READY.

KEEP THAT CAMERA GOING--

THEY--WANT ME TO DO THIS...

TO FINALLY-- GET THEIR PROOF!

BUT--WE...

...DON'T...

...CARE!

HUNH?

KRAKKBA

ARRRGGH!

=HACK=...
=HACK=...

C-CASTLE?

FRANK CASTLE?

=HACK=--
=HACK=--WHAT? WHAT'RE YOU--

STAY DOWN, STACY...

HRRNNH...

THIS BATTLE ISN'T WITH YOU.

THIS TIME IT'S WAR.

NO...
=HACK=--
=HACK=--WHAT--
WHAT DID YOU DO?!

HE CAN'T BE...YOU CAN'T--

OURS!

SYSTEVICH WAS OURS!

SIR? WHAT--WHAT DO WE DO?

I--I DON'T--

HEH.

IT'S SIMPLE, BOYS...

YOU RUN

RRRNNNGGGH...

RRAAAAARRGHH!

FLOWERS?! FLOWERS?!

CAN YOU BELIEVE THE GALL OF THIS JERK?

Get well soon, Captain Stacy.

D.A. Foggy Nelson

IF FOGGY NELSON HAD DONE HIS DAMN **JOB**--

--THE **RHINO** WOULD HAVE NEVER BEEN ON THE STREET, MUCH LESS IN A CELL WITH GEORGE!

BEN, PLEASE...

NO, MAY. IT'S **PETER** ALL OVER AGAIN.

MY **BEST FRIEND** IS LYING THERE, THE VICTIM OF THIS MADNESS--

--AND I'M DOING **WHAT?** HOPING? PRAYING SOME **GREATER POWER** WILL FIX IT ALL?

I CAN'T JUST SIT HERE. I HAVE TO DO **SOMETHING.**

THE DAILY BUGLE

BREAKING NEWS: RHINO HUNT ENDS?

Aleksei "The Rhino" Sytsevich SLAIN?

New look SPIDER-WOMAN to blame?

BEN...

...YOU'RE RIGHT.

WE'VE SAT BY AND LET OTHER PEOPLE TAKE ON OUR **RESPONSIBILITIES** IN THIS TOO LONG.

SPIDER-WOMAN IS HOW THIS STARTED. SHE'S THE KEY TO ENDING IT.

WE HAVE TO FIND HER.

AND TO DO THAT, WE HAVE TO FIND GWEN STACY...

"...SHE'S GOING TO NEED ALL THE HELP SHE CAN GET."

RHINO'S *DEAD.*

HE HAS TO BE.

I *DIDN'T* KILL HIM.

I DIDN'T *GET* TO.

BUT I *WANTED* TO.

MORE THAN *ANYTHING* I'VE EVER *WANTED.*

I *HAVE* TO GET THIS THING OUT OF ME.

TO BE CONTINUED...

AS A TEENAGER, GWEN STACY WAS BITTEN BY A MUTATED SPIDER. THE BITE TRANSFORMED HER, GRANTING HER AMAZING POWERS: A PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER, ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES, AND THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED AND STRENGTH OF A SPIDER. BUT THOSE GIFTS WERE TAKEN AWAY WHEN A SUPER VILLAIN FURTHER TAMPERED WITH HER GENETICS, AND GWEN HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO EMBRACE A SYMBIOTIC PARASITE CALLED VENOM TO RESTORE THEM. TO THE RESIDENTS OF NEW YORK, SHE IS THE DANGEROUS OUTLAW CALLED SPIDER-WOMAN, BUT YOU KNOW HER AS...

SPIDER-GWEN

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rico. vs. gwen

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VENOM (A.K.A. "GWENOM")

REAL NAME: Gwendolyn Maxine Stacy
OCCUPATION: Crimefighter, Musician, Bodega Clerk, Outlaw
LEGAL STATUS: American Citizen, Wanted for Manslaughter
OTHER ALIASES: Spider-Woman, "Spider-Gwen" (dubbed by Spider-Ham)
PLACE OF BIRTH: Forest Hills, Queens, NYC (Earth-65)
MARITAL/RELATIONSHIP STATUS: Single
KNOWN RELATIVES: Captain George Stacy (father), Helen Stacy (mother, deceased)
GROUP AFFILIATION: The Mary Janes (co-founder, drummer)
BASE OF OPERATIONS: New York City (Earth-65)
FIRST APPEARANCE: EDGE OF SPIDER-VERSE #2, SPIDER-GWEN #24 (As VENOM)

HISTORY (CONTINUED FROM SPIDER-GWEN ENTRY): After the reconstitution of her reality in the wake of the Secret Wars, Gwen Stacy was the target of an ill-conceived attempt at revenge on Spider-Woman by Harry Osborn. A childhood friend of both Gwen and Peter Parker, Harry held Spider-Woman responsible for Peter's death. Harry first took up the mantle of the Green Goblin but was quickly bested by Gwen. Enraged by his defeat, Harry infected himself with Parker's Lizard serum. With the abilities granted to him by the serum, Osborn fought Spider-Woman and Captain America to a standstill. The battle only ended after Stacy selflessly revealed the truth about her dual identity and Parker's death. Asking that Harry seek redemption for them both, Stacy allowed Osborn to escape into the tunnels of NYC, in the hope that his father's resources at OSCORP might help him seek a cure for his Lizard mutations.

In the aftermath, Stacy sought the counsel and companionship of Jessica Drew, A.K.A. Spider-Woman of Earth-616. Drew soon found herself as a curmudgeonly mentor to both Stacy and Cindy Moon, A.K.A. Silk. The trio found themselves thrust into a team-up when an average Sunday brunch on Earth-65 turned to a battle for survival after all three were targeted by agents of the global spy organization S.I.L.K. In the ensuing fray, Gwen Stacy's interdimensional transporter (A.K.A. "Web Watch") was stolen, and Cindy Moon's Earth-65 counterpart was revealed to be the leader of S.I.L.K.

Following "Cindy-65" (see "Superior Silk," part 1) back to the Marvel Universe, the Spider-Women discovered her plan: to loot the reality of its advanced weapons and technology, with the intention of arming S.I.L.K.'s own forces. Moon and Stacy eventually battled Cindy-65 at Parker Industries, a confrontation which was punctuated by a grandiose revelation from Cindy-65: that SHE was responsible for granting Stacy her spider-powers, powers Cindy-65 then ripped away by infecting Stacy with a mysterious nanotechnology.

Fortunately, one of Cindy-65's most loyal soldiers, Jessica Drew's Earth-65 doppelganger, Jesse, defected, and equipped Stacy with a rare radioactive isotope. Effectively serving as a "power-up," the isotope temporarily restored Stacy's powers. In concert with Drew's defection, Stacy's restored abilities gave her and the Spider-Women of the Marvel Universe the edge they needed to defeat Cindy-65 and stop S.I.L.K.'s interdimensional plot (see the pages of SPIDER-WOMEN).

The restoration of Stacy's powers was not without limitations, however. Jesse Drew was only able to provide Stacy with a limited number of power-ups, handicapping the number of times she would be able activate her abilities. As Stacy wrestled with the realization that her opportunities to be a super hero were literally numbered, Captain Frank Castle of the NYPD ratcheted up his investigation into Spider-Woman, asserting that she was both in collusion with Captain George Stacy and secretly his daughter. Though these claims were dismissed by D.A. Foggy Nelson, Castle continued his probe—recklessly pushing past the boundaries of the law in order to give meaning to his job and life. Soon, an altercation between Castle and Spider-Woman led to catastrophic damage and endangered countless innocent lives. Driven by his guilt in creating the situation, Captain Stacy shocked his daughter and law enforcement by surrendering to the police. Now branded an outlaw, Castle escaped.

With her father awaiting trial, Stacy brokered a desperate deal with the Kingpin of Crime, Matt Murdock. In exchange for her services as Spider-Woman, she requested Murdock's legal counsel for her father. But Captain Stacy was uncooperative, seeking to use the wide media coverage of his trial as a platform to tell the world the truth about the false charges against Spider-Woman. As Gwen's father extolled her innocence to the press and world, Murdock furthered his designs against her by gaining access to an unlimited supply of power-ups.

Harry Osborn, meanwhile, resurfaced. Harry's efforts to get help curing his condition were a failure, and Norman instead reprimanded his son and branded him a traitor not only to his country but also to his family. Harry went on the run once again and fled to Madripoor. With no other options, he called Gwen for help. Without the aid of his father, his mutations had begun to grow out of control, and Gwen took it upon herself to continue her uneasy alliance with Murdock in the hopes of exploiting his resources to find a cure for Harry's condition.

She got her wish, but at a cost. In a confrontation with Osborn's father, Murdock revealed that he had been conducting research of his own into the source of Gwen's powers. With the help of former Oscorp scientist Elsa Brock, Murdock had learned that exposure to the radiation in Gwen's power-ups had a strange effect on DNA altered by the Lizard serum. When exposed to Gwen's radioactive isotopes, the mutagen catalyzed into a raw life-form that resembled the original alien species that infected Agent Jesse Drew. Dubbed the Venom, the parasite emitted a deadly radiation which Stacy was solely and uniquely immune to, thanks to her radioactive spider-blood.

With this new information and a cadre of Murdock's ninjas at her command, Gwen pursued Harry to Madripoor, but found that she wasn't the only one hunting him. A two-man S.H.I.E.L.D. assassination team was also on his tail: Mr. Murderhands (A.K.A. Wolverine) and Shadowcat. The strain of the constant, purposeful attacks from Murdock's Hand ninjas and Wolverine exacerbated Harry's condition, mutating him into a full Lizard creature. With no other way to save Harry, Gwen chose to expose him to the power-up radiation, drawing the alien DNA out of his body. This process spawned another VENOM parasite, which Gwen willingly bonded with to prevent it from falling into more reckless, dangerous hands.

Meanwhile, as Captain Stacy's trial neared, Murdock knew his leverage over Gwen was reaching its end. With the help of D.A. Foggy Nelson and the corrupt cops on Murdock's payroll, Aleksei Sytsevich (A.K.A. the Rhino) was inserted into Captain Stacy's holding cell, where he savagely beat George Stacy within an inch of his life in order to silence him.

Confronting the newly "Venomized" Gwen in Madripoor, Murdock revealed to Stacy her father's condition as a means of breaking her confidence and control over the parasite and further manipulating her to fulfill his secretive plans. Rushing to her father's hospital bedside, Stacy found that the influence of the Venom intensified her emotions—turning her guilt into an unbridled rage that she aimed at the very cops she counted on to protect him.

Gwen Stacy is currently on the prowl as Venom, seeking revenge on Matt Murdock and to regain control over her life. ■

HEIGHT: 5'5" (approximate)
WEIGHT: 125 lbs. (approximate)
EYES: Blue
HAIR: Blond

SUPER-POWERS: The "VENOM" is a symbiotic life-form derived from a mutated strain of alien DNA. This ultra-malleable genetic material mimics the powers once granted to Gwen Stacy by a bite from a "radioactive" spider. These include the ability to cling to walls, perfect balance and equilibrium, as well as superhuman speed and agility and a sixth "spider-sense," which alerts her to impending danger.

The Venom also effectively mimics Spider-Woman's web-shooters as well as re-creates clothing at Stacy's command. It may also possess as-yet-unrevealed powers and abilities.

SKILLS/TALENTS: See SPIDER-GWEN entry.

"FUN" FACT: One potentially dangerous side effect is that exposure to the Venom seems to remove the inhibitions typically kept in check by host's conscious and rational choices. It wants you to eat fried chicken wings for breakfast and troll all the dummies online.

Art by Robbi Rodriguez

SPIDER-GWEN #26!

ON SALE NEXT MONTH!

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MY NAME IS GWEN STACY.

I USED TO HAVE A PRETTY NORMAL LIFE.

BUT THEN ALONG CAME A STUPID, RADIOACTIVE...

THE MARY JANES

...SPIDER.

SO, OF COURSE, I DID WHAT ANY OTHER KID WOULD HAVE DONE HAD *THEY* BEEN GIVEN CRAZY SUPER-POWERS FROM A SPIDER BITE...

...I BECAME A TOTALLY AWESOME SUPER HERO.

SOME PEOPLE EVEN LIKED THIS NEW SUPER HERO. PEOPLE LIKE...

...PETER PARKER.

PATHETIC PARKER.

TRY THAT AGAIN. GO ON, TRY.

SEE YOU WHEN YOUR *GIRLFRIEND'S* NOT AROUND, PARKER.

I JUST WISH I HAD KNOWN PARKER'S SECRET...

PATHETIC... NO...MORE!

PETER...

I JUST WANTED TO BE SPECIAL... LIKE *YOU*...

DAILY BUGLE

NEW YORK'S FINEST DAILY NEWSPAPER

EVERYONE BLAMED ME FOR PETER'S DEATH...

SPIDER-WOMAN WANTED

...NOBODY MORE THAN ME, THOUGH.

AND SO I'VE DEDICATED MY LIFE TO OWNING UP TO THE ***RESPONSIBILITY*** GIVEN TO ME WITH THESE POWERS.

I FIGHT FOR PETER, AND FOR ANYONE BEING PICKED ON. FOLKS CALL ME ***SPIDER-WOMAN.*** BUT YOU CAN CALL ME...

SPIDER-GWEN

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